

The Area Studies courses lasted for six weeks and consisted of lectures on such topics as 'The Peoples of Africa', 'The Politics of Tropical Africa', 'New African States and World Politics', and 'The History of Africa and Traditional African Literature', given by visiting faculty members Dr. Jacob Ajayi (Ibadan University), Dr. J. Nketia (University of Ghana), Dr. Vernon McKay (Johns Hopkins University, Washington, D.C.), and Mr. Colin Legum (England), as well as by UCLA's own Africanists Drs. A. C. Jordan, Hilda Kuper, and Benjamin Thomas.

Under the Languages programme, credit-earning courses were offered in four African languages (Hausa, Yoruba, and Swahili at both the introductory and advanced levels, and Twi at the introductory level) by visiting professors D. W. Arnott (SOAS, London) and A. H. M. Kirk-Greene (Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria) for Hausa, R. Snoxall (SOAS) and B. Kirwan (Uganda) for Swahili, and Robert Armstrong (Ibadan) for Yoruba, as well as by two professors from UCLA's Department of Near Eastern and African Languages, W. Welmers (Yoruba) and P. Schachter (Twi). Informants and tapes supported the materials compiled by the faculty, and extensive use was made of language laboratory facilities. It is expected that a similar NDEA programme will be offered in the summer of 1964.

UCLA now offers a number of regular courses in African languages, and for 1963 its Department of Near Eastern and African Languages under Dr. Wolf Leslau listed Swahili, Bambara, Luganda, Kpelle, Xhosa, Hausa and Twi in its calendar as well as a survey course in African Language Structures and one on traditional African literature in translation.

(Contributed by Anthony Kirk-Greene)

### *'Islam in Africa': International Conference at Bouaké*

AN International Conference on the theme of 'Islam in Africa' was held from 2 to 6 April at the Cultural Centre of the Monastery of Bouaké, Ivory Coast (see *Africa*, April 1963, p. 156).

After an introductory address by the chairman, M. Norbert Tapiero of the University of Lyon, the historical background of Islam in Africa was dealt with in papers by Dr. Robert Cornevin (The history of Islam in Africa down to the end of the eighteenth century); Mr. Daniel McCall (The importance of the eleventh century in the islamization of the Sudan); and Mr. Mervyn Hiskett (The role of the Fulani among the Hausa-speaking people). The second session of the Conference included an account of Islamic mysticism by His Excellency Amadou Hampate Bâ, the Mali Ambassador in the Ivory Coast, a paper on 'Marabouts in black and white' by Professor Vincent Monteil, and an eye-witness account by the Rev. Fr. Luc Moreau, O.P., of a contemporary Mahdist mystical phenomenon. The third session was devoted to geographical, sociological, and cultural aspects of Islam in Africa. The Rev. Fr. Schildknecht, W.F., read papers on Islam in Eastern Africa by himself and the Rev. J. Spencer Trimmingham, who had been unable to attend the Conference. M. J.-C. Froelich spoke on the African's concept of Islam today, while Dr. A. D. H. Bivar and Mr. Mervyn Hiskett gave papers on Arab manuscripts in West Africa and a critical study of the Islamic content of Hausa literature, respectively. Each paper was followed by a lively discussion in which observers at the Conference also took part. In his closing address M. Tapiero expressed the hope of the Conference that the new African Governments would show an active interest in research into original documents of both Arab and African expression and realize the importance of collecting and preserving such materials.

The papers and discussions are to be published shortly by 'Les Éditions du Seuil', Paris. Further information about this Conference and others planned by the Cultural Centre of the Monastery of Bouaké may be obtained from the R.P. Placide Pernot, O.S.B., Monastère de Toumliline, Azrou, Morocco.